

**The Evening Herald.**

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As the campaign draws nearer the period of active hostilities criticism of President Wilson and his policies grows more and more violent. As political lines are drawn and as the campaign plans of action develop quite number of newspapers which until recently were fair, if not friendly, in dealing with the administration, have joined the ranks of those who can see nothing good in a Democratic administration and who condemn everything the president does apparently without regard to the facts and conditions behind his policies.

It is natural that the situation with regard to Mexico and the border troubles should be most generally used as a medium for肆虐. The policy in dealing with the border raids is described as "weak," "shaking," "shameless," and by other even more violent terms which rightly belong more in the heated mists of a local political election than in a sensible discussion of national policy. The assertion that General Funston found it necessary to ask several times before reinforcements were ordered to the border has been employed as the club with which President Wilson has been unmercifully beaten by his enemies, by Republican newspapers and by those media of expression now rapidly taking up with the cause of Theodore Roosevelt.

These newspapers apparently forgot the very recent contents of their own news columns. They appear to have overlooked the fact that within less than a month—and following the Columbus raid General Funston was quoted as having said, as he doubtless did say—that there were sufficient troops on the border to handle the situation. Because General Funston made repeated requests for more troops after the latest raiding of the border, and because those troops were not forthcoming over night, is no reason for concluding that General Funston was "weak" and "naseating" a month ago, in advising the administration and the country that the situation was in hand. The situation changed; that is all. It has been met as well as it could be in the country's present state of military preparedness. Probably General Funston, who knows these conditions as well as anyone, would be the last man to criticize those in authority. The most bitter criticism has come from those who do not know; from those who either from ignorance or prejudice or political motives are willing to use a national crisis to gain a point.

The Herald believes in adequate protection for the border. There is no disposition to differ with those who would have had a stronger policy in dealing with Mexico. We should have pursued a more vigorous policy, if possible, from that distant date when William H. Taft was president of the United States and when the troops were occurring which led up to the present situation south of the Rio Grande.

But to place blame for the whole course of events and the events as they have occurred in Mexico upon the shoulders of the president is not very sensible to anyone who will stand ready to throw out and keep to mind all the events of the next fifteen or four years. It is true that to hold onto while American citizens are being slaughtered by half-crazed tribes is very difficult. Just the same it is probable that within fifteen or six years the course pursued by President Wilson particularly with respect to the more recent insurrections will have been shown to have been the very best course that could have been pursued under all the conditions. By that time all of the conditions will have become so well and will have been calmly considered by men who will have had time to think.

Events far more harmful to the interests of the United States than the raids into New Mexico and Texas have occurred during the Mexican revolutions and have caused little or no excitement or feeling among us. It is because the border raids have been close to home that feelings are stirred.

What could have been a companion on the border six months ago, or even three, by the young men who are on their way to duty out of Albuquerque stores and homes today? Isn't it bad enough to have these youngsters going into possible per-

ilient Western Midland (deferred stock) and North Eastern, give yields of considerably over 6 per cent. The roads are not paying out the whole of their profits in dividends, but are making liberal appropriations for general and special purposes. The North Eastern, for instance, is paying 6½ per cent dividends, and is earning 7½ per cent. It is selling around 124. In 1915 this stock sold around 124. The London & North Western is paying 6 per cent, earning 6½ per cent, and selling around 100. In 1915 it sold at 128. Great Western is paying 5½ per cent dividends, and earning 6½ per cent. It is selling at 92, against 119½ in 1915. Midland is paying 4 per cent, earning 4½ per cent, selling at 99½, against 77½ in 1915.

The reply and the reason are obvious. We stand some chance of accomplishing something in a war on mosquitoes, when great world balances are tumbling down and war between men hovers around our borders.

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We cannot hope to get very far, or to accomplish much good, by lengthy discussion of world issues which even the greatest minds among us do not wholly grasp and before which the really great minds stand in something like stunned horror.

Making war on mosquitoes may seem insignificant warfare but it may accomplish some good. Plunging up to our necks in the half-understood issues of the world wars will help neither us nor those whose blood is flowing. If we can check some of the infinitesimal annoyances and blood flows at home we will feel like giving three rousing cheers. There is more common sense, we believe, in attending to business here at home so long as we cannot possibly help in attending to the greater and more gruesome business abroad.

**STIMULATING PROSPERITY FIGURES.**

In MARCH of this year establishments in the iron and steel industry of the United States paid out in wages nearly \$2,000,000 more than they paid out during March of 1915. These are official figures made public by the bureau of labor statistics of the department of labor. They show in a startling way the present unexpected prosperity of the country.

Reports received by the federal reserve board from all parts of the United States, and made public in a recent issue of the Federal Reserve Bulletin, are agreed that the wave of prosperity in this country is not yet at its crest. The principal industries are booked with orders up to their capacity as well into 1916. "Hard times" will cut very little figure in this year's political campaign, therefore.

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